

## Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-04 MC-02 COME-00 EB-07 SP-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05

NSCE-00 OMB-01 /056 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA:CLLOYD:SK

APPROVED BY EUR/NE:JJCROWLEY

EUR/RPM:WROBINSON

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O 082229Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 169448

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: BE, MASS

SUBJECT: US ARMY PURCHASE OF BELGIAN MACHINE GUN

REF: ACHILLES-PHILLIPS TELCON 8 JULY

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH EMBASSY REQUEST FOR PRESS GUIDANCE, EMBASSY SHOULD INDICATE TO MEDIA QUESTIONERS THAT COURT DECISION DELAYING CONTRACTING UNTIL AFTER ISSUANCE OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING OFFICE (GAO) REPORT IS NOT UNUSUAL NOR WILL IT NECESSARILY DELAY ARMY PROCEEDING WITH CONTRACT. ARMY IS PRESENTLY SEEKING AUTHORITY FROM CONGRESS TO REPROGRAM FY-1976 FUNDS IN ORDER TO CONCLUDE CONTRACT BUT CONGRESS IS IN RECESS AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL JULY 19. SELECTION BY ARMY OF BELGIAN GUN WAS ON BASIS OF THOROUGH COMPETITIVE TESTING AGAINST US MANUFACTURED GUN AND TESTING WAS MONITORED BY GAO. GAO DRAFT REPORT INDICATES IT SUPPORTS ARMY DECISION IN FAVOR BELGIAN WEAPON. HOPEFULLY WHEN CONGRESS RETURNS AND APPROVES THE FUNDING THE CONTRACT-COULD BECONCLUDED BY THE END-OF AUGUST.

2. WE UNDERSTAND MOD VANDEN BOEYNANTS HAS TOLD PRESS THAT  
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F-16 AIRCRAFT AND MACHINE GUN ARE SEPARATE PROBLEMS AND

THAT COURT CONTEST OF ARMY DECISION IS NORMAL IN PROCESS  
OF WEAPON ACQUISITION. EMBASSY SHOULD INDICATE THAT MOD  
STATEMENT IS ENTIRELY CORRECT. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MILITARY SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE169448  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** CLLOYD:SK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760264-0118  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 64  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** schwenja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 APR 2004  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US ARMY PURCHASE OF BELGIAN MACHINE GUN  
**TAGS:** MASS, BE, US  
**To:** BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
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